IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants: IKOMA et al.

Serial No.:   Rule 53(b) of 09/299,644

Filed: June 26, 2003

For: APPARATUS AND METHOD FOR USE IN DISTRIBUTED
               COMPUTING ENVIRONMENT FOR CONVERTING DATA FORMAT
               BETWEEN PROGRAM LANGUAGE-SPECIFIC FORMAT USED IN
               RESPECTIVE COMPUTERS AND STREAM FORMAT USED FOR
               COMMUNICATION AMONG COMPUTERS

Art Unit: Unassigned (previously 2151 in parent application)

Examiner: Unassigned (previously D. Cao in parent application)

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450   June 26, 2003

Sir:

IN THE SPECIFICATION

       Please amend the specification as follows:

       Page 1, between lines 1 and 2, insert --This is a continuation of prior

application Serial No. 09/299,644, filed April 27, 1999.--

       Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 7, line 25, with the following

rewritten paragraph:

       --In Fig. 2, a client program 111 has therein: program data 113 and 122

which is specific to a computer and a described program language; an ORB 141